

## PRESENTATION OF ACADEMY PLAQUE TO JOHN L. MADDEN, M.D.\*

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New York, New York

**T**ONIGHT we are honored to present the Academy Plaque for outstanding service to the Academy to Dr. John Leo Madden.

Dr. Madden is a native of Washington, D.C., and received his medical degree from George Washington University. However, virtually all of his professional career has been in New York City, which is fortunate for us. Though he has been consultant surgeon at more than a dozen hospitals in three states, most of his surgical triumphs have been accomplished in the heart of New York City, and there have been many triumphs.

His published contributions to the surgical literature total nearly 100. The Library of the American College of Surgeons contains 50 films of surgical procedures by him. I was told by a surgical colleague that on one occasion when an operation performed by Dr. Madden was broadcast into the auditorium where the College of Surgeons was meeting, the assembled surgeons were so impressed by his dexterity and respect for tissue that at the end they stood up and cheered. He has received more than 15 awards of merit for exhibits at meetings of various professional societies.

He is a member of more than two dozen societies, including the most prestigious surgical organizations in this country, and has been president of at least four, including the New York Surgical Society and the International Cardiovascular Society. He served for nine years as an officer of the Section on Surgery of the American Medical Association, culminating in the chairmanship of that section. He has been among those chosen to give the annual Roswell Park Lecture in Buffalo. The list of persons who have been chosen to give this lecture reads like a roster of the greatest American surgeons of our time (starting with Allen Whipple in 1948 and including, I am pleased to say, several other surgeons who were Fellows of this Academy). He has been honored by visiting professorships in 25 institutions in 15 states and three other countries. He has recently

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\*Presented at the Stated Meeting of the New York Academy of Medicine held April 10, 1980.



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been made a member of the French Academy of Surgery, an honor bestowed on very few Americans; indeed, only 120 Frenchmen are members of what 150 years ago was called the Royal Academy of Surgery of France.

However, it is not for all the accomplishments we have mentioned that we honor Dr. Madden, but rather for his service to the Academy, which has been devoted and continuous since he joined the Academy more than 30 years ago. He served as secretary and subsequently as chairman of our Section on Surgery in the mid 1950s. He served with the Committee on Medical Education for more than 10 years, and was chairman in 1959 and 1960. He served on the By-Laws Committee for many years, and was chairman of that committee during the last major revision of the by-laws in 1969. He was president of the Academy in 1965 and 1966, and before and after his presidency he was an elected trustee for a total of 12 years. Thus, he served on the governing council for a total of 16 years. This in itself is remarkable, but equally important has been the quality of his service. In spite of a very busy life, he has always been ready to take on any assignment or to offer sage advice.

Dr. Madden, we are happy to present you with the Academy Plaque for 1980.